

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. - 200. (Canceled)

201. (Currently amended) A fine fiber comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a blend of a hydrophobic additive and nylon 66, the fine fiber having a fiber size of about 0.01 to 0.5 micron;
- (b) a blend of a hydrophobic additive and a polymer comprising a blend of at least two different nylon polymers, the fine fiber having a fiber size of about 0.01 to 0.5 micron;
- (c) a blend of a hydrophobic additive and a nylon polymer comprising a nylon other than a copolymer formed from a cyclic lactam and a C₆₋₁₀ diamine monomer or a C₆₋₁₀ diacid monomer, the fine fiber having a fiber size of about 0.01 to 0.5 micron; or
- (d) mixtures thereof; wherein after exposure to air at 140°F and 100% relative humidity for 1 to 16 hours at least 50% of the fine fiber remains substantially unchanged.

202. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 201 wherein the fine fiber comprises a blend of two nylon polymers and has a diameter of 0.01 to 0.2 micron.

203. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 201 wherein the fine fiber survives immersion in hot water at 140°F and at least 50% of the fiber survives after 5 minutes.

204. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 201 wherein the fiber, when exposed to an air stream having a temperature of about 140°F and a relative humidity of about 100%, greater than about 50% of the fiber survives for more than 16 hours.

205. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 201 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 30 microns.

206. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 201 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 20 microns.

207. (Currently amended) A fine fiber comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an acrylic polymer combined with either a crosslinking agent or a hydrophobic additive, the fiber having a fiber size of about 0.01 to 0.5 micron;

(b) a blend of a hydrophobic additive and a polymer comprising a blend of at least two different acrylic polymers, the fine fiber having a fiber size of about 0.01 to 0.5 micron; and

(c) mixtures thereof; ~~the substrate comprising a filtration media~~ wherein after exposure to air at 140°F and 100% relative humidity for 1 to 16 hours at least 50% of the fine fiber remains substantially unchanged.

208. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 207 wherein the fine fiber can be exposed to an alcoholic solvent at 70°F and wherein at least 50% of the fiber remains after 5 minutes.

209. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 207 wherein the fine fiber survives immersion in hot water at 140°F and at least 50% of the fiber survives after 5 minutes.

210. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 207 wherein the fiber, when exposed to an air stream having a temperature of about 140°F and a relative humidity of about 100%, greater than about 50% of the fiber survives for more than 16 hours.

211. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 207 wherein a temperature of 160°F is used.

212. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 207 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 30 microns.

213. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 207 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 20 microns.

214. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 207 wherein the fine fiber comprises a microfiber having a diameter of about 0.1 to 0.5 micron.

215. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 207 wherein the fine fiber comprises a nanofiber having a diameter of about 0.01 to 0.2 micron.

216. (Currently amended) A fine fiber comprising the reaction product of a polymer resin and a cross linking agent, the fiber having a fiber size of about 0.01 to 0.5 micron, ~~the substrate comprising a filtration media~~; wherein after exposure to air at 140°F and 100% relative humidity for 1 to 16 hours at least 50% of the fine fiber remains substantially unchanged.

217. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 216 wherein the fine fiber comprises a blend of two polymer resins and has a diameter of 0.01 to 0.2 micron.

218. (Currently amended) The ~~media~~fine fiber of claim 216 wherein the ~~media~~fine fiber, when exposed to an air stream having a temperature of about 140°F and a relative humidity of about 100%, greater than about 50% of the fiber survives for more than 16 hours.

219. (Currently amended) The ~~filter media~~fine fiber of claim 216 wherein the crosslinking agent comprises urea formaldehyde, melamine formaldehyde, phenol formaldehyde, or mixtures thereof.

220. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 216 wherein the crosslinking agent comprises a dialdehyde, trialdehyde, tetraaldehyde, a diacid, a urethane reactant, epoxy reactant, or mixtures thereof.

221. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 216 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 30 microns.

222. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 216 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 20 microns.

223. (Currently amended) A fine fiber comprising an electrospun fiber comprising the reaction product of a polymer resin and a crosslinking agent, ~~the substrate comprising a filtration media;~~ wherein after exposure to air at 140°F and 100% relative humidity for 1 to 16 hours at least 50% of the fine fiber remains substantially unchanged.

224. (Previously presented) The fiber of claim 223 wherein the fine fiber comprises a blend of two polymer resins and has a diameter of 0.01 to 0.5 micron.

225. (Previously presented) The fiber of claim 223 wherein the fine fiber has a diameter of 0.01 to 0.2 micron.

226. (Currently amended) The fiber of claim 223 wherein the ~~media~~fine fiber, when exposed to an air stream having a temperature of about 140°F and a relative humidity of about 100%, greater than about 50% of the fiber survives for more than 16 hours.

227-230. (Canceled)

231. (Previously presented) The fiber of claim 223 wherein the crosslinking agent comprises urea formaldehyde, melamine formaldehyde, phenol formaldehyde, or mixtures thereof.

232. (Previously presented) The fiber of claim 223 wherein the crosslinking agent comprises a dialdehyde, trialdehyde, tetraaldehyde, a diacid, a urethane reactant, epoxy reactant, or mixtures thereof.

233. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 223 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 30 microns.

234. (Previously presented) The fine fiber of claim 223 comprising a layer having a thickness of less than about 20 microns.